



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

JUL 30 2025

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 377, which requires the California High-Speed Rail Authority to include a funding plan for the Merced to Bakersfield segment in its 2026 business plan, including updated cost estimates, risk assessments, and service initiation options.

This bill primarily reflects longstanding work the Authority is already undertaking — including efforts captured in last year's business plan update. Looking ahead, I encourage the Legislature to prioritize measures that are additive and help advance project delivery — particularly by improving timely and accountable third-party utility coordination, expanding energy capacity to support the system, and addressing other constraints that continue to hinder progress.

California's high-speed rail project is a critical investment in our future, and we must remain focused on policies that help clear the path to completion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Gavin Newsom", written over a horizontal line.

Gavin Newsom